



PARISH OF ST JOHN XXIII, PRESTON

St Joseph's and English Martyrs' Churches

Incorporating the districts of St Augustine, English Martyrs, St Ignatius, St Joseph & St Teresa

29th March 2026

Palm Sunday [A]

Upcoming Masses & Services this week:

	Time	Church	
Sunday 29th March <i>Palm Sunday</i>	5.30 - 5.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [<i>Confessions</i>] <i>Mass begins in the Church Porch</i>
	6.00pm	SJ	Mass <i>People of the Parish</i> <i>Mass begins with a Solemn Procession –</i> <i>*[meet in the Car Park]</i>
	11.15am	SJ	Mass <i>John Galway</i>
	4.00pm	SJ	Stations of the Cross & Benediction
	4.30 - 4.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [<i>Confessions</i>] Mass <i>Dilworth Family</i>
	5.00pm	SJ	
Monday 30th March <i>Monday in Holy Week</i>	6.00pm	EM	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	6.30pm	EM	Mass <i>Patricia Long</i>
Tuesday 31st March <i>Tuesday of Holy Week</i>	9.00am	SJ	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	9.30am	SJ	Mass <i>In Thanksgiving</i>
Wednesday 1st April <i>Spy Wednesday</i>	9.30am	SJ	Mass <i>Holy Souls</i>
	6.00pm	SJ	Holy Hour & Sacrament of Penance
Thursday 2nd April <i>Maundy Thursday</i>	11.30am		Chrism Mass at Lancaster Cathedral
	7.00pm	SJ	Mass of the Lord's Supper <i>Thanksgiving</i>
Friday 3rd April <i>Good Friday</i>	10.00am	SJ	Stations of the Cross & Veneration of the Relic of the True Cross
	3.00pm	SJ	Solemn Passion
Saturday 4th April <i>Holy Saturday</i>	12noon	SJ	Blessing of Easter Baskets
	7.00pm	SJ	Easter Vigil Mass <i>Converts</i> <i>Mass begins with the Blessing of the</i> <i>Easter Fire in the Car Park</i> <i>Mass includes Baptisms & Confirmations</i>
Sunday 5th April <i>Easter Sunday</i>	11.15am	SJ	Mass <i>Edmund Noblett</i>
	4.30 - 4.50pm	SJ	Sacrament of Penance [<i>Confessions</i>]
	5.00pm	SJ	Mass <i>People of the Parish</i>

EM = English Martyrs [PR1 1NA]

SJ = St Joseph [PR1 5UQ]

PALM SUNDAY

How profound it is for us to keep the traditions and customs of this day. How still more wonderful it must be to experience the great procession in Jerusalem itself, from the Mount of Olives through to Jerusalem. This year however, the lack of peace or at lack of tolerant conditions have brought the need to cancel this procession in Jerusalem. We, in the act of accompanying the Lord must unite ourselves with our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land, for their witness and perseverance under so much pressure and persecution on all sides.

In reading church history, we can trace this wonderful tradition in Jerusalem, which we in spirit, bring to our own parishes. In the liturgy more than simple re-enactment we participate in this triumphant entry, which leads to the Cross, the throne of Christ's Kingship. As early as the 4th century, the diary of one traveller to Jerusalem records how the faithful reenacted Jesus' triumphal entry:

"And as the eleventh hour approaches, the passage from the Gospel is read, where the children, carrying branches and palms, met the Lord, saying; Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord, and the bishop immediately rises, and all the people with him, and they all go on foot from the top of the Mount of Olives, all the people going before him with hymns and antiphons, answering one to another: Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord. And all the children in the neighbourhood, even those who are too young to walk, are carried by their parents on their shoulders, all of them bearing branches, some of palms and some of olives, and thus the bishop is escorted in the same manner as the Lord was of old." [The Pilgrimage of Etherea].

OUR PRAYERS

We pray for all our sick and housebound parishioners and those who care for them. We also pray for all the lately dead: Susan Stoker, Joan Higginson, Peter Hartley, Marie Morris and all whose anniversaries occur: Joe Bamber, and Thomas Ingham.

SHRINE CHURCH OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

The Vigil Mass [on Saturday evening], continues to be celebrated at St Joseph's. Monday evening Adoration and Mass are celebrated in the War Memorial Chapel. Thank you for your support! *Fr E*

EASTER CLEANING

A "big clean" of St Joseph's will take place next Saturday, 4th April, 10.00am-11.30am. Brasses can be polished after weekday Masses this week.

ALTAR SERVERS

It would still be useful if the older men of the parish, who may have served as boys, or not, would consider serving at weekday Masses, funerals, and weekday devotions.

Serving Team practices for Easter Liturgies:

- Tuesday 31st March, 6.00pm, followed by social.
- Saturday 4th April, 1.00pm.

GIVING TO YOUR PARISH

A new Financial Year begins in early April, perhaps, if you can, you could consider the regular offering. If you are a taxpayer who makes cash offerings to the parish and would like a set of *Gift Aid* envelopes, please speak with one of the priests.

Perhaps you could make your offering or part of it by standing order? This can also be claimed against the tax you contribute, if declared.

Thank you for your continued support!

Setting up a Standing Order: St John XXIII,
Sort Code: 40-27-02 A/C: 71335391 [HSBC UK]

ANN FENWICK

Ann Fenwick was an important figure in the cause for Catholic freedoms in this country and founded a Catholic Mission in the 18th Century at Hornby, outside of Lancaster. Our Bishop is discussing the possibility of opening her cause for canonisation. Perhaps we can begin to get to know Ann Fenwick, and pray for this cause. You are invited to attend an anniversary Mass for her at the Church where she is buried. Tuesday 28th April at 7.00pm at St Wilfrid, Melling, LA6 2RA.

THE SACRED TRIDUUM

Maudy Thursday

7.00pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday

10.00am - Stations & Veneration of the True Cross

3.00pm - Liturgy of the Passion

Holy Saturday

12noon - Blessing of Easter Baskets

7.00pm - Easter Vigil

Followed by a celebratory Easter Gathering

Easter Sunday

11.15am & 5.00pm - Easter Masses

HOLY HOUR & CONFESSIONS

To make the very best preparation for Easter, there will be an extra opportunity in Holy Week for prayer before the Blessed Sacrament and to go to Confession: Wednesday 1st April, 6.00pm-7.00pm.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY*

For Divine Mercy Sunday [12th April] the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed shortly before 3.00pm and the chaplet will be recited at 3.00pm. The Blessed Sacrament will remain exposed until Benediction at 4.30pm. There will be opportunity for confession between 3.15pm-4.15pm. Mass follows at 5.00pm, as normal.

*A plenary indulgence is granted to all those who recite the chaplet, receive Holy Communion, and go to Confession over the course of the weekend.

SPUC PRO-LIFE CHAIN

Please join us for our local annual silent act of witness to remember the millions of unborn babies lost to abortion. Saturday 25th April between 11.00am - 1.00pm. Meet on London Road, Preston - just north of Ribble bridge, parking available by the river. For info: email spucpreston@gmail.com

WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE

Our annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham, to the National Shrine of Our Blessed Lady, will take place from 28th September to 1st October 2026. The All-inclusive costs is £360-£420, depending on accommodation. Pick up and return from Preston, for more information and to book contact Deacon Charlie Connor at Charlie.conner@lrcd.org.uk or 07711345176.

*"Why did you suffer for me, dear Jesus? For love!
The nails...the crown...the cross...all for the love of
me!" -St. Gemma Galgani*

The Catholic Parish of St John XXIII, Preston

www.stjohnxxiiipreston.com

St Joseph's Presbytery, Caroline Street, Preston, PR1 5UY

Email: stjohnxxiii.preston@lrcd.org.uk Telephone: [01772] 796053

Parish Priest: Fr Daniel Etienne | Email: daniel.etienne@lrcd.org.uk

Assistant Priest: Fr Stuart Chapple | Email: stuart.chapple@lrcd.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Representative: Anthony Sudell: anthony.sudell@lrcd.org.uk 07948 493237

Lancaster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity Number 234331